

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 32-41 are pending. The Applicants have added dependent claims 33-41, which are supported, for example, at pages 9, 10 and 15 of the application.

In the Office action mailed October 18, 2005 ("Office action"), the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8-15 and 32 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0122067 to Geigel et al. ("Geigel") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0126141 to Mastronardi ("Mastronardi"). The Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections, but have amended claims 1, 6, 11, and 32 to expedite prosecution.

I. Geigel.

In the interest of reaching a shared understanding of the disclosure of Geigel, the Applicants make the following observations.

Geigel describes a system and method for automatic layout of images in digital albums. (Geigel, Abstract.) A user inputs a collection of images, such as from a digital camera. (*See* Geigel, ¶¶ [0056], [0057], Figure 1.)

An Albuming Automation System ("AAS") analyzes the images and lays out images within an album page or pages. (*Id.*) The AAS incorporates various principles of layout design in its decision-making processes. (Geigel, ¶¶ [0079] – [0084].)

As output, the AAS produces album pages. (Geigel, ¶¶ [0056], [0057], Figure 1.) According to Geigel, AAS output can be printed, displayed, or transferred to media such as a picture compact disc ("CD"). (*Id.*)

II. Claims 1-5 and 11-15.

Claim 1, as amended, recites:

- b) displaying on a first display device, to a user, the group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
...
an album of images, wherein the album is for viewing on a second display device different than the first display device;
...

- h) processing the image file copies to tailor the selected images according to one or more display characteristics of the second display device.

Claim 11, as amended, recites:

- b) means for displaying on a first display device, to a user, the group of images for which corresponding image files are available;
...
an album of images, wherein the album is for viewing on a second display device different than the first display device;
...- h) means for processing the image file copies to tailor the selected images according to one or more display characteristics of the second display device.

Geigel and Mastronardi, taken separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1 and 11, respectively.

Geigel describes displaying album pages as output of the AAS. (Geigel, ¶¶ [0056], [0057], Figure 1.) Even if, for the sake of argument, displaying album pages is “displaying on a first display device,” it involves a single display device. Geigel does not teach or suggest, and in fact leads away from, “the album is for viewing on a second display device different than the first display device,” as recited in claims 1 and 11. Geigel is even further from teaching or suggesting, processing image file copies “to tailor the selected images according to one or more display characteristics of the second display device,” as recited in claims 1 and 11.

More generally, Geigel indicates AAS output can be printed, displayed, or transferred to media such as a picture CD. (*Id.*) Even if, for the sake of argument, media such as a picture CD could be used for viewing at a different display device, Geigel nowhere describes processing “to tailor the selected images according to one or more display characteristics of the second display device,” as recited in claims 1 and 11. On the contrary, Geigel indicates the *same AAS output* is printed, displayed, or transferred to other media, which leads away from tailoring “according to one or more display characteristics of the second display device,” as recited in claims 1 and 11.

Mastronardi describes a process of selecting a recording on an audiovisual reproduction system. (Mastronardi, Abstract.) Mastronardi fails to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1 and 11, respectively. Geigel and Mastronardi, taken in combination, also fail to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1 and 11, respectively.

In view of the foregoing discussion, the Applicants will not belabor the merits of the separate patentability of claims 2-5 and 12-15.

Claims 1-5 and 11-15 should be allowable.

III. Claims 6, 8-10 and 32.

Claims 6 and 32, as amended, each recite, “receive second input from the user indicating a preferred order of display for the selected images as a slideshow.” Geigel and Mastronardi, taken separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 6 and 32.

Geigel describes the AAS outputting album pages as single page images, albums of images, or media such as a picture CD (Geigel, ¶¶ [0056], [0057], Figure 1.) Outputting album pages (as in Geigel) does not teach or suggest “a preferred order of display for the selected images as a slideshow,” as recited in claims 6 and 32.

Moreover, inasmuch as Geigel describes an automated system that operates with “minimal input from the user” (Geigel, ¶ [0009]), Geigel leads away from receiving “second input from the user,” as recited in claims 6 and 32. Geigel is even further from teaching or suggesting receiving “second input from the user indicating a preferred order of display for the selected images as a slideshow,” as recited in claims 6 and 32.

Mastronardi describes a process of selecting a recording on an audiovisual reproduction system. (Mastronardi, Abstract.) Mastronardi fails to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 6 and 32, respectively. Geigel and Mastronardi, taken in combination, also fail to teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 6 and 32, respectively.

In view of the foregoing discussion, the Applicants will not belabor the merits of the separate patentability of claims 8-10.

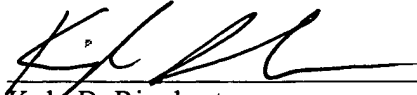
Claims 6, 8-10 and 32 should be allowable.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-6, 8-15 and 32-41 should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below if the Examiner believes that doing so would further the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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